



Moffett Community Housing UPDATE No. 9

Moffett Field, California

June 2005

Introduction

The U.S. Navy has been studying groundwater and air quality at Moffett Community Housing, which includes Orion Park Housing Area (Orion Park and Macon Terrace) and Wescoat Housing, in Mountain View, California. This update provides information about upcoming groundwater studies at Orion Park Housing Area.

The Navy is planning to work in Orion Park Housing Area from June 20 through July 8 to install groundwater monitoring wells and sample groundwater. There may be occasional, minor traffic delays (5 minutes or less) to allow delivery of equipment to a site. Most of the work will be done in the common grass areas. Information on how to contact Navy and Army project staff is provided on the back page.

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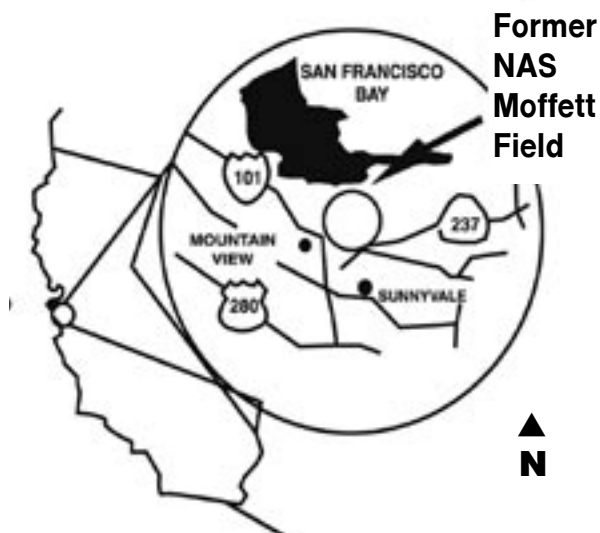
Why the Navy is Conducting Groundwater Studies

The Navy began environmental investigations at Moffett Community Housing because chemicals known as volatile organic compounds (VOCs), including trichloroethene (TCE), were found in the groundwater. The groundwater under Moffett Community Housing is not used for drinking, irrigation, or other household purposes. The water used in the housing areas for those purposes comes from the Hetch

Hetchy reservoir in the Sierra Nevada Mountains, and is treated to meet all state and federal drinking water standards.

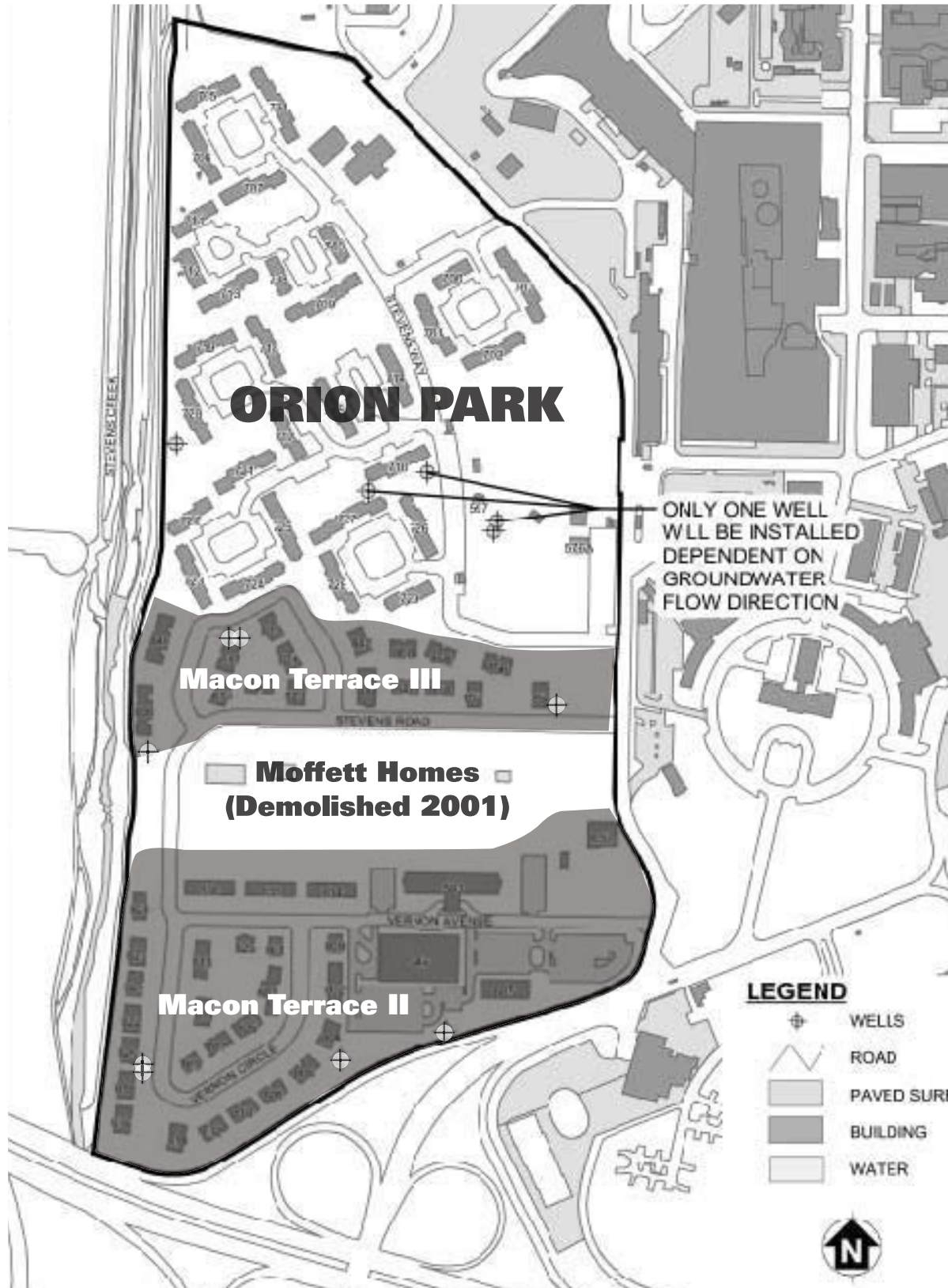
Upcoming Groundwater Investigation

The Navy is studying groundwater underneath Orion Park and Macon Terrace to provide more information about the contaminants identified in previous investigations. From June 20 through July 8, Navy contractors will be drilling 11 groundwater monitoring wells into specific areas of the water table (see map next page). These are the same areas where VOC contamination in groundwater was observed in the past. Samples will be collected from each well shortly after the wells are installed, then again later. The groundwater sample results will provide information on the VOCs present in the groundwater. The chemical data will also be used to help decide if there is a potential on site source. Measuring depths to groundwater before collecting samples will provide information



Proposed Monitoring Well Location Map

Orion Park Housing Area



that will aid in determining the direction of groundwater flow.

The drilling and sampling crews will be working from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. No traffic lanes will be closed, but there may be an occasional 5-minute delay when equipment arrives at a site.

What Residents Will See

You may see technicians wearing safety vests, hard hats and protective glasses assisting with the groundwater well installation and sampling. Nine wells will be drilled in the common grass areas; two wells will be drilled in a front yard in the Vernon Circle area.



Drill rigs like this are used to install groundwater wells that will be used to take samples for analysis.

The drillers will use a hollow-stem auger drill rig to install wells, shown in the photo above. As shown, these drill rigs are mounted on a truck. Each well location will be roped off with yellow caution tape. Once installed, each well will have a concrete pad at the surface with a 3-foot riser in the middle, surrounded by three posts (see photo above right). Wells will be locked at all times. The risers and posts will be painted yellow.



This well is an example of how the new wells at Orion Park will look when completed.

After each well is installed, groundwater samples will be taken and shipped to a laboratory for analysis. This process will be repeated at each location. To notify residents, construction notices will be hung on the doors of units near these areas prior to the start of the fieldwork.

What's Next

The wells will be sampled again later in 2005. The draft Groundwater Monitoring Report for Orion Park Housing Area is expected to be released for review by regulatory agencies in early 2006. The report will provide the results of the groundwater sampling efforts described in this information update. The report will be made available for review by residents and other interested parties at the following locations:

Mountain View Public Library
585 Franklin Street
Mountain View, California

Moffett Community Housing Office
Building 14
Moffett Field
Mountain View, California

Project Points of Contact

Keeping the public involved and informed is an important part of this project. The Navy's project team is dedicated to developing and maintaining open communication with the residents at Moffett Community Housing and the surrounding communities. If you have questions or concerns, please feel free to contact the following project team members:

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All plans and reports related to the Navy's groundwater and air quality studies at Moffett Community Housing are available daily for your review at the Mountain View Public Library, 585 Franklin Street, Mountain View, California.

For more information on the environmental work underway at Moffett Field, log on to www.navybracpmo.org/bracbases/california/moffett/

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